

Message Text

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72

ORIGIN NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OES-03 L-02 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY NASA/I/BGGARNER:SS

APPROVED BY AF/E: WBCOOTE

D/S: COL. DAVOGT

NASA/T/CATAYLOR (DRAFT)

NASA/G/KUPPERMAN

NASA/I/AWFRUTKIN

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P 142140Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112462

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA: MA

SUBJECT: NASA STATION NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) TANANARIVE 672, (B) STATE 82030 (C) TANANARIVE
801, (D) STATE 37001

1. REGRET DELAY RESPONSE REFS A AND C. NASA HAS AGAIN
REVIEWED AND ASSESSED SITUATION IN LIGHT DISCUSSIONS WITH
EDELIN UPON HIS RETURN.
2. NASA CONTINUES TO PREFER TO STAY IN TANANARIVE AS LONG
AS SITUATION PERMITS AND COSTS REMAIN REASONABLE. HOWEVER,
AS POST AWARE, NASA HAS SET CERTAIN LIMITS ON CONDITIONS IT
WILL ACCEPT FOR CONTINUANCE OF STATION (REF B). WE
UNDERSTAND THAT GOMR HAS BEGUN TO IMPOSE FUEL TAX. WOULD
APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSESSMENT AND ESTIMATE OF EXTENT GOMR
PLANS TO INCREASE THIS KIND OF ACTIVITY.
3. WHILE NASA SHARES HOPE THAT AID AND PL 480 LOAN WILL
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INCREASE RECEPTIVITY OF DIRECTORATE TO NASA CONTINUANCE ON
SAME TERMS THEY BELIEVE THAT ADDITIONAL PRESSURE FOR
INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME FUTILE AND
POSSIBLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE UNLESS GOMR SHOWS SIGNS OF

CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH.

4. AS OUTLINED REF D, NASA PLANS (SUBJECT TO EMBASSY COMMENTS) TO NEGOTIATE SERIES OF CONTRACTS WITH DESIGNATED MALAGASY COOPERATING AGENCY IN LIEU OF FORMAL QUOTE INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT UNQUOTE AS ENVISIONED EARLIER.

5. NASA WOULD BE WILLING TO ENTER INTO INFORMAL WORKING RELATIONS WITH P&T (OR ANY OTHER OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED MALAGASY COOPERATING AGENCY). HOWEVER IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT NASA CANNOT LEGALLY TRANSFER MONEY WITHOUT FORMAL CONTRACT, AND CONTRACT WITH WRONG ENTITY COULD BE DETRIMENTAL. IT IS ALSO UNLIKELY IN OUR VIEW THAT FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS WILL BE POSSIBLE UNLESS MALAGASY COOPERATING AGENCY IS SO DESIGNATED OFFICIALLY AS THEY MAY WELL BE HESITANT TO ACT OR MAKE DECISIONS IF NOT GIVEN THE SPECIFIC AUTHORITY TO DO SO. THIS WAS FORMER ATTITUDE OF P&T. -

6. WE AGREE THAT FULL MALAGAZIATION IS RIGHT NOW BEING DEFINITELY DELAYED WITHOUT OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED COOPERATING AGENCY AND SELECTION OF MANAGEMENT TRAINEES. NASA DOUBTS THAT IN ABSENCE NAMING EXPERIENCED MANAGERS IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE (VERY UNLIKELY), IMPOSSIBLE TO MEET END 1976 TURNOVER DATE. TRAINING OF TECHNICAL LEVEL PERSONNEL HOWEVER PROCEEDING AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

7. THUS WHILE NASA CAN INDICATE ITS CONTINUED SINCERITY IN PROCEEDING TO MALAGAZIATION BY FORWARDING EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH EMBASSY DRAFT STUDY CONTRACT AS PROPOSED REF D, AGAIN, NO ACTION REALLY CAN BEGIN WITHOUT GOMR APPROACHING MATTER CONSTRUCTIVELY AND ISSUING P&T SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY TO ENABLE SELECTION OF TRAINEES AND DEVELOPMENT OF PHASED TURNOVER PLAN. IT MUST BE A JOINT PROGRESSION FROM THIS POINT FORWARD; NASA CANNOT DO THE JOB ALONE. -

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8. REQUEST REPORT ON MIN RAKOTOMALALA VISIT TO STATION MAY 6. KISSINGER

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